

TITLE 22. SOCIAL SECURITY

DIVISION 9. PREHOSPITAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

CHAPTER 2: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TECHNICIAN

[Notice published July 24, 2009]

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

The Emergency Medical Services Authority ("EMSA") proposes to adopt the proposed regulations described below after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

PUBLIC HEARING

The EMSA will hold a public hearing starting at 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm on (September 8, 2009), at EMSA located at 1930 9th Street, Sacramento, California. The meeting room is wheelchair accessible. At the hearing, any person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the proposed action described in the informative digest. The EMSA requests but does not require that persons who make oral comments at the hearing also submit a written copy of their testimony at the hearing.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action to the EMSA. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile (FAX) at (916) 324-2875 or by e-mail to laura.little@emsa.ca.gov. The written comment period closes at **5:00 p.m.** on **September 8, 2009**. The EMSA will consider only comments received at the EMSA offices by that time. Submit comments to:

Laura Little, BLS Coordinator
EMS Authority
1930 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Health and Safety Code Section 1797.190, authorizes the EMSA to adopt these proposed regulations. The proposed regulations implement, interpret, and make specific Sections 1797.196 and 104113 of the Health and Safety Code and Sections 1714.2 and 1714.21 of the Civil Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/ POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Current law authorizes the EMSA to adopt minimum standards for training and scope of practice for EMTs. Current law also authorizes the EMSA to adopt minimum standards for certification and recertification of EMTs.

The EMT amendments are based on the future implementation of the National Educational Standards that will change the EMS provider level of services to EMT, Advanced EMT, and Paramedic. The local EMS agency amendments and Authority amendments were changed to be consistent with acronyms used throughout the regulations pertaining to EMT, Advanced EMT, and Paramedic.

The EMSA proposes to amend Chapter 2 of Division 9, of Title 22. This Chapter of Regulations was last revised in 2006 and there have been advances and changes in prehospital training, certification, scope of practice, and medical control pertaining to EMTs both nationally and in California.

These amendments are intended to:

1. Replace the term "EMT-I" with the term "EMT".
2. Update, and clarify numerous elements of the EMT Chapter of Regulations pertaining to EMT training, certification, medical control, and scope of practice requirements.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

The EMSA has made the following initial determinations:

- Mandate on local agencies and school districts: None.
- Cost or savings to any state agency: None.
- Cost to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code Sections 17500 through 17630: None.
- Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: None.
- Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: None.
- Cost impacts on a representative private person or businesses: The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.
- Significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states: None.

Adoption of these regulations will not:

- (1) create or eliminate jobs within California;
- (2) create new businesses or eliminate existing businesses within California; and
- (3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business in California.

Significant effect on housing costs: None.

SMALL BUSINESS DETERMINATION

The EMSA has determined that the proposed regulation will not have an affect on small businesses because the amendments proposed in this chapter do not substantially change the EMT-I training, certification, or recertification requirements. The major impact of these regulations is to require criminal background checks on EMT-I's and EMT-II's which 27 of the 31 local EMS agencies currently require. The criminal background checks typically occur only one-time and are paid for by the individual EMT-I and EMT-II certification applicants.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

EMSA must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the agency, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the agency, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or businesses than the proposed regulatory action (Government Code section 11346.5(a)(13)).

CONTACT PERSONS

Inquiries concerning the proposed administrative action may be directed to:

Laura Little, BLS Coordinator
EMS Authority
1930 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 322-4336

The backup person for these inquiries is:

Sean Trask, EMS Personnel Manager
EMS Authority
1930 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 322-4336

Please direct requests for copies of the proposed text (the "express terms") of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons, the modified text of the regulations, if any,

or other information upon which the rulemaking is based to Ms. Little at the above address.

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS, TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS, AND RULEMAKING FILE

The EMSA will have the entire rulemaking file available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at its office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice Register, the rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of the regulations, and the initial statement of reasons. Copies may be obtained by contacting Laura Little at the address or phone number listed above.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After holding the hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the EMSA may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the EMSA makes modifications which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 days before the EMSA adopts the regulation as revised. Please send requests for copies of the modified regulations to the attention of Laura Little at the address indicated on the previous page. The EMSA will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they were made available.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, copies of the Final Statement of Reasons may be obtained by contacting Ms. Little at the address listed on the previous page.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations in underline and strikeout can be accessed through our website at www.emsa.ca.gov.